

Four Hills Village Association (FHVA)

Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the FHVA Annual General Meeting of January 23, 2021

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

1. Call to Order

President Steve Brugge opened this virtual meeting at 10:02 AM. He announced that the meeting was being recorded and requested that all attendees remain muted unless called upon to participate.

Attendance:

- Officers: Steve Brugge, Ellen Lipman, Linda Martinez, and Lee LaBrier
- Directors: Abbas Akhil, Lisa “Rusty” Goetz, Paul Sedillo, Howard Kimberly, Jan DeMay, Marilou Cochran, Ian Esquibel, and Brigid Conklin.
- Past President Jim Cochran
- Member-at-Large Ann Harris Davidson
- And 35 FHVA Members joined, each link to Zoom may reflect 1, 2, or more people in attendance from the household.

2. Approval of January 18, 2020 FHVA Annual General Meeting Minutes

Ann Harris Davidson noted a misspelling of Dan Conklin’s name on the last page and asked that it be corrected. Jan DeMay made a motion to approve the corrected January 18, 2020 Annual General Meeting Minutes; Rusty Goetz seconded; and the motion passed unanimously. The minutes can now be found on www.fhva.org.

3. Introduction of Dignitaries

- Representative Meredith Dixon, New Mexico House of Representatives, District 20
- Barbara Petersen, APS Board of Education, District 4; representing APS Board of Education in place of Elizabeth Armijo, our FHV District 6 Board of Education Member
- APD Commander James Collins, Commander of Foothills Area Command
- Alan Armijo, Director of Public Affairs for the City of Albuquerque and representing Mayor Tim Keller
- City Councilor Don Harris, District 9
- Bernalillo County Commissioner Charlene Pyskoty, District 5, current Chairperson of Bernalillo County Commission.

4. Guest Speakers

- A. Representative Meredith Dixon, NM House District 20

- A.1 Rep. Dixon expressed pleasure at being invited to join the FHVA Annual General Meeting. She and her family have been residents of FHV for 15 years.
- A.2 While the pandemic has restricted in-person meetings, there are still opportunities for public participation in state politics. By logging in to nmlegis.gov it is possible to follow developments and participate in public committee meetings.
- A.3 Rep. Dixon is on two committees:
- House Appropriations & Finance; and
 - House Energy, Environment & Natural Resources.
- A.4 Rep. Dixon is the sponsor and co-sponsor of several pieces of legislation.
- Sponsoring:
- Chop Shop
 - Metal Theft
 - CYFD Reforms
 - NM Grants Office (to leverage federal funds)
 - Protecting Victims of Crime
- Co-sponsoring:
- Tax Exemption on Military Pensions
 - Additional CYFD Reforms
 - Revision to Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP)
- A.5 Rep. Dixon's Power Point Presentation, with further details, will be made available on www.FHVA.org. Also, she can be reached at meredith.dixon@nmlegis.gov and at 505-401-8339.

B. Barbara Petersen Albuquerque Public School's Board of Education

- B.1 APS BoE Member Petersen expressed gratitude for City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County partnership and coordination last year. APS has experienced a significant loss of funding due to the pandemic.
- B.2 APS is anxious to begin in-person classes. Several factors must be considered in that decision:
- First, APS has one of the oldest teacher populations in the country, making them more vulnerable to COVID-19.
 - Second, there is a longstanding shortage of teachers and substitute teachers in New Mexico.
 - Third, while children tend to become less sick with COVID-19, they are quite likely to spread the virus (and many of them live with grandparents or other elderly relatives).
 - And, fourth, school districts nationally that have opened have found it difficult to stay open due to the pandemic.
- B.3 As a result, APS has decided to delay opening until it is certain

that schools can remain open.

- B.4 APS has narrowed the search for a new Superintendent to six applicants. For more information on this and other topics please go to www.aps.edu. To contact Barbara Petersen, call 505-880-3729 or email petersen_b@aps.edu.

C. Commander James Collins, APD Foothills Area Command

- C.1 Commander Collins described the Foothills Area Command's area of responsibility as everything east of Eubank from the north to the south City limit. That area includes trailheads along the foothills. The Foothills Area Command building is located at 12800 Lomas NE, at the intersection of Lomas and Georgene. Commander Collins has been the Foothills Area Commander for four years and "loves it".
- C.2 Commander Collins reports that at the beginning of the year there were many plans to grow and strengthen the partnership between APD and communities. The pandemic has delayed implementation of many of those plans because of reduced or eliminated personal interactions. Many interactions or reports are happening by phone now. APD is looking forward to a time when community partnership may be promoted. One aim is to reduce the occurrence of crime, both property and violent crime.
- C.3 The six citywide Area Commands are working to reduce crime by focusing their efforts on identified "hot spot" areas.
- C.4 Commander Collins appreciates input from citizens in the Foothills Area. He can be reached at jcollins@cabq.gov, please put Four Hills Village in the subject line as he has 35-40 Associations in the Foothills Area.
- C.5 Commander Collins stated that "Four Hills Village is a jewel! It is beautiful and has low crime."

D. Alan Armijo, Director of Public affairs for the City of Albuquerque and representing Mayor Tim Keller

- D.1 Alan Armijo offered apologies from Mayor Tim Keller that he was unable to attend this meeting of FHVA. Mayor Keller is interested in attending one of these meetings in the future.
- D.2 Mayor Keller's administration has public safety as a priority. They are currently searching for a new Chief of Police. At the beginning of Mayor Keller's tenure, APD had 842 police officers; there are currently 950 police officers and 50 cadets scheduled to graduate in March. It is Mayor Keller's goal to have 1,200 police officers on the force in Albuquerque.
- D.3 As a result of reduced traffic and pedestrian activity, due to the pandemic, Mayor Keller has made construction projects a priority. This has had the effect of advancing many projects and injecting

income into the local economy.

- D.4 A recent survey of Albuquerque residents indicated that homelessness is an issue of major concern. The Keller Administration is working to address homelessness, however, there are not enough services and facilities for the number of homeless. More mental health facilities are also needed. Many projects are ongoing.
- D.5 In his closing message, he asked residents to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 by getting tested and wearing a mask. Alan Armijo can be reached at aarmijo@cabq.gov, or by calling 311 or by calling 505-768-3000.

E. County Chair Charlene Pyskoty, Bernalillo County Commission, District 5

- E.1 County Commissioner Pyskoty reported that Bernalillo County has been very involved in the response to COVID-19, utilizing partnerships with APS, the City of Albuquerque, and the State of New Mexico. She has helped to distribute PPE. She reported that the Albuquerque Fire Department went statewide to educate personnel in Assisted Living Facilities on protecting against COVID-19. The County Commission was instrumental in bringing potable water to To'hajiilee, which is necessary for proper COVID-19 prevention, hygiene, and good health. The County has received \$32 million from the federal government for pandemic expenses, which its economic development team has provided to small businesses, restaurants, mental health providers, etc.
- E.2 APS has helped with providing childcare, Grab and Go Meals, and Wi-Fi buses at community centers so that students can use Wi-Fi to do their schoolwork.
- E.3 Some of the CARES grant money has been used to provide hotel vouchers for homeless families. Since that money ran out efforts are underway to create a community fund to which citizens can contribute to provide hotel vouchers for the homeless.
- E.4 Efforts are ongoing to help seniors and the disabled to get COVID-19 vaccinations, including help with access to scheduling and transportation.
- E.5 Bernalillo County offices are expected to move to Alvarado Square in the spring of 2021.
- E.6 Commissioner Pyskoty can be reached at district5@bernco.gov or on her Facebook page at Commissioner Charlene Pyskoty.

F. Councilman Don Harris, City of Albuquerque, District 9

- F.1 Councilor Harris informed the attendees that this is his 16th FHVA Annual General Meeting. He also remarked that, while he has not made up his mind yet, this may be his last, as he may not run again for Albuquerque City Councilor.

- F.2 Councilor Harris highlighted many of his accomplishments:
- the new lighted Four Hills Village sign at the entrance of the community;
 - many properties acquired to further the goals of a cultural corridor and Tijeras Arroyo Open Space;
 - the Singing Arrow Community Center;
 - a plan to develop Rancho de Carnue (eventually an open-air museum for the archaeological site near the Singing Arrow Community Center);
 - the Barsis Park at Four Hills Village;
 - traffic control efforts over many years;
 - Juan Tabo Hills Park Phase 1;
 - Juan Tabo Hills Park Phase 2 has been funded and will include the longest and largest slide in the metro area;
 - Four Hills Village Arroyo railing installation at Sagebrush Trail SE; and
 - closed off access to Manzano/ Four Hills Open Space at the southeast corner of Four Hills Village.

Also, the Franklin Plaza at the corner of Juan Tabo and Central, which has been an eye sore since the anchor grocery store closed more than a decade ago, is scheduled to be redeveloped.

- F.3 Councilor Harris's power point presentation will be available at www.fhva.org. Councilor Harris can be reached at dharris@cabq.gov or 505-768-3123. You may also contact Policy Analyst Laura Rummler at lrummler@cabq.gov .

5. President Steve Brügge's Report

- A. President Brügge offered condolences to Jim White's family on behalf of the Four Hills Village Association. Jim White was a past President of this neighborhood association. He then went on to serve our area most ably in the New Mexico State House of Representatives (District 20) and in the New Mexico State Senate (District 19).
- B. President Brügge introduced the other 2021 FHVA Board Members:
- Ellen Lipman, Vice-President
 - Linda Martinez, Treasurer
 - Lee LaBrier, Secretary
 - Abbas Akhil, Government Affairs Director
 - Paul Sedillo, Security Director
 - Jan DeMay, Public Relations/Real Estate Director
 - Rusty Goetz, Open Space Director
 - Brigid Conklin, Publications Director

- Marilou Cochran, Membership Director
 - Howard Kimberly, Webmaster
 - Ann Harris Davidson, Member-At-Large
 - Jim Cochran, Past President.
- C. President Brügge sincerely thanked the departing 2020 Board Members, whose service to the community has been valued and appreciated:
- Jennifer Lopez, Vice-President
 - Andrew Lipman, Government Affairs Director
 - George Gibbs, Security Director
 - Mike Blackledge, Webmaster
 - Lynda Hartman, Membership Director
- D. Copies of the Budget for 2020, the Minutes from FHVA Annual General Meeting for 2020, and the agenda for today's meeting can be found on www.fhva.org.
- E. One of the under-appreciated benefits of having a neighborhood association is that, when there are any proposed actions that will impact our neighborhood, the Association will be notified by the city or county first. This enables the neighborhood to mobilize a response. Other obvious benefits are the excellent *Chronicle* newsletter which is distributed quarterly and the membership directory which is distributed yearly. Also, the shred event is offered yearly as a benefit to the community. And, in 2020, there were three community clean-ups, a beautiful new lighted sign for FHVA was installed at the entrance to Four Hills Village and the old sign was moved to the "Y", and, to finish off 2020, three residences were singled out because of their beautiful holiday lighting and the Board awarded \$50 gift card to each in recognition of their efforts. Thank you all for joining us.

6. Adjournment

President Brügge adjourned the meeting at 11:16 AM.